

Nalco Docket No.: 5593C1

OFFICIALSPECIFICATION

The Paragraph beginning at page 5, line 10 is amended as follows:

The polymer is a low molecular weight sulfonate-containing polymer, preferably, a polymer comprising acrylamide, acrylic acid and acrylamidomethyl sulfonate. It is understood that the term "sulfonate" includes sulfonic acid and its various salts such as sodium, potassium, ammonium, calcium sulfonate, and the like. Such sulfonated polymers are well known and may be prepared via a number of known methods including polymerization of vinyl monomers containing the sulfonate functional group (i.e. vinyl sulfonate, sulfonated styrene, and AMPS (2-acrylamido-2-methyl propane sulfonic acid)). Preparation of a broader variety of sulfonate-containing polymers are available via transamidation of polymers containing pendant amide functional groups such as those taught in U.S. Patent No. 4,703,092. Polymers of acrylic acid or methacrylic acid can also be sulfonated for use in this invention using known methods such as those taught in U.S. Patent No. 4,795,789. These sulfonate-containing polymers might also contain other functional groups which could enhance the use of these sulfonated polymers in this invention.